

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 55

By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Herbert Eugene Davenport, Jr. of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Reverend Davenport; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Davenport was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Davenport had performed God's work and led his flocks with love, compassion, and integrity as the Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Shell Lake, Arkansas, and as Senior Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in South Memphis, a position in which he earned the respect of his congregation for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, he worked diligently to serve his community by working with various organizations such as the Memphis District Association and the Memphis Baptist Ministerial Association; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Davenport also dedicated his time to mentoring young people at a number of area middle and high schools; in addition to this service, he also developed the "Young Men of Distinction" organization at Booker T. Washington High School; and

WHEREAS, he was a civic minded individual and worked as an instructor at local and state congresses and institutes, and even lent a helping hand to neighborhood clean-up, beautification, and revitalization efforts; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Davenport was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife, Virginia Hill-Davenport, and was the proud parent of Visa and Dena, as well as the loving grandfather to his three grandchildren, Terrian, Daven, and Jaelyn; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed by his brother and sisters, and a host of other family, friends, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Herbert Davenport leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Reverend Dr. Herbert Eugene Davenport, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Reverend Davenport.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.